



News Release

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Sophia and Jacob top baby names for 2010 in Washington

Jacob is number one for most of decade

OLYMPIA — We take pride in being a little different in the Northwest, and that's also true with the names we choose for our babies. In 2010, the most popular name for baby girls was Sophia, while Isabella was the most popular name nationally. Jacob was the most popular name for baby boys in Washington and across the United States.

Jacob has held the number one spot for the past decade in the United States. In Washington, Jacob was the first choice for baby boys this decade in every year but three. In 2009, Alexander was first and Jacob, second. In both 2008 and 2002, Ethan was first and Jacob, second. Overall, 44,247 boys were born in 2010 in Washington. Of those, 416 babies were named Jacob. Over the previous four decades, Michael was the number one name for baby boys (1961-1998) in the United States, according to the Social Security Administration.

Although there are consistent favorites for girls, the most popular names in Washington change every couple of years. In Washington, four names have been in the top five for most of the decade: Olivia, Isabella, Emma, and Emily. Sophia has been one of the top four most popular names beginning in 2007. Overall, 42,233 girls were born in 2010 in Washington. Of those, 474 babies were named Sophia.

"Naming a baby is an important decision that will last for the child's whole life. These days, it seems like one of the first things a parent does after naming a baby is text friends and family with the news," said Dr. Maxine Hayes, state health officer and a pediatrician. "The next thing they can do is sign up for text4baby, a new service that sends helpful health advice to cell phones in text messages."

[Text4baby](#) is a free health information program that sends weekly text messages to help pregnant women and new mothers give their babies a healthy start. It's easy to sign up. Text "BABY" for

messages in English or “BEBE” for messages in Spanish, to 511411. People may also [sign up online](#) (www.text4baby.org/).

Top 10 Names for 2010				
Rank	Males		Females	
	Washington	U.S.	Washington	U.S.
1	Jacob	Jacob	Sophia	Isabella
2	Alexander	Ethan	Olivia	Sophia
3	Daniel	Michael	Isabella	Emma
4	William	Jayden	Emma	Olivia
5	Ethan	William	Ava	Ava
6	Logan	Alexander	Abigail	Emily
7	Benjamin	Noah	Emily	Abigail
8	Liam	Daniel	Elizabeth	Madison
9	Elijah	Aiden	Madison	Chloe
10	Noah	Anthony	Chloe	Mia

[Washington popular baby names](#)

(http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehsphi/CHS/chs-data/birth/bir_main.htm#topnames)

[United States popular baby names](#) (<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/babynames/>)

The [Department of Health website](#) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).

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